

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. ~~T-665~~  
Magi No. T-482  
DOE   yes   no

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic St. John's United Methodist Church

and/or common

## 2. Location

street & number East side of Route #33, approx. one tenth of not for publication  
city, town Wittman   vicinity of mile North of Pot Pie Rd.  
  congressional district 37th

state Maryland county Talbot

## 3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<u>  </u> district	<u>  </u> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<u>  </u> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<u>  </u> unoccupied	<u>  </u> commercial
<u>  </u> structure	<u>  </u> both	<u>  </u> work in progress	<u>  </u> educational
<u>  </u> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<u>  </u> entertainment
<u>  </u> object	<u>  </u> in process	<u>  </u> yes: restricted	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religious
	<u>  </u> being considered	<u>  </u> yes: unrestricted	<u>  </u> scientific
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<u>  </u> industrial
			<u>  </u> military
			<u>  </u> other:

## 4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Vestry and Trustees of St. John's Church

street & number    telephone no.:   

city, town Wittman state and zip code Maryland 21676

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Talbot County Court House liber 145

street & number    folio 312

city, town Easton state Maryland 21601

## 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title   

date       federal    state    county    local   

pository for survey records   

city, town    state

## 7. Description

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### Condition

☐ excellent  
☐ good  
☒ fair

☐ deteriorated  
☐ ruins  
☐ unexposed

### Check one

☐ unaltered  
☐ altered

### Check one

☐ original site  
☐ moved      date of move \_\_\_\_\_

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Located on the east side of Route 33, approximately one tenth of a mile north of Pot Pie Road. The church has a gable roof with one gable facing Route 33 and another facing south. There is a square entrance and bell tower two stories high with a conical roof. The south face of the tower has a double six-panel door and a double window with 2-over-2 lights. The facade to the west has three tall 2-over-2 lights. The facade to the west has three tall 2-over-2 windows and there is a small 2-over-2 window in the west face of the tower. The facade to south has decorative shingles (diamond and fish scale) in the gable. There was also a small round window that has been removed and patched.

## 8. Significance

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Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

### Specific dates

### Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D  
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☐ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

Survey No. ~~T-665~~ <sup>1-70</sup>

## PS-2746

T-482  
~~7-665~~

ST. JOHN'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
ST. JOHN'S METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

YEAR: 1905 VOL: 145 PAGE: 312

FROM : Heirs Wm L Wrightson and Tr. Asbury ME Church of Wittman PRICE: \$900

TO : Trustees of St. John's M E Church of Talbot County

NOTES: In 1851, 64/42 William L Wrightson conveyed to Joseph Bruff and other trustees of the "Asbury Chapel"--formerly "Kersey's Meeting House"-- certain land which was for the use of a colored society or congregation now known as St. John's Meeting House; however, the land was never conveyed to St. Johns. Asbury ME Church has now sold their land adjoining the Wrightson property to St. Johns. They wish to wrap up the whole package and this deed is for two lots, 1851, 64/142 and the church building and land.

YEAR: 1851 VOL: 64 PAGE: 42

FROM : William L Wrightson & Mary E Wrightson PRICE: \$10

TO : Trustees of Asbury Chapel (formerly Kersey's Meeting House)

NOTES: Is part of "Miles End" adjoining William P Kemp and a portion formerly deeded to Kersey's Meeting House. Also includes a part of the land deeded by James Haddaway to the Meeting House. Begins on W side of main road near the meeting house, run S 57 E 16 1/2 P; S 87 W 15 1/2 ) (That's all!)

YEAR: 1804 VOL: 30 PAGE: 534

FROM : James Haddaway & Catharine Haddaway PRICE: 7s specie

TO : Daniel Lambdin, John McDaniel, John Kersey, Joseph Hopkins, \*

NOTES: \*Robert Collison, James McDaniel and Robert Lambdin, Jr. Part of "Miles End". Begins at beginning of land sold by John Kersey (30/505) runs S 55 E 6P; S 81.45 W 5 1/3P to the road; with the road to the beginning. Contains 8 square poles or perches."....that they can erect or build a house of worship for the Methodist Episcopal Church of America".

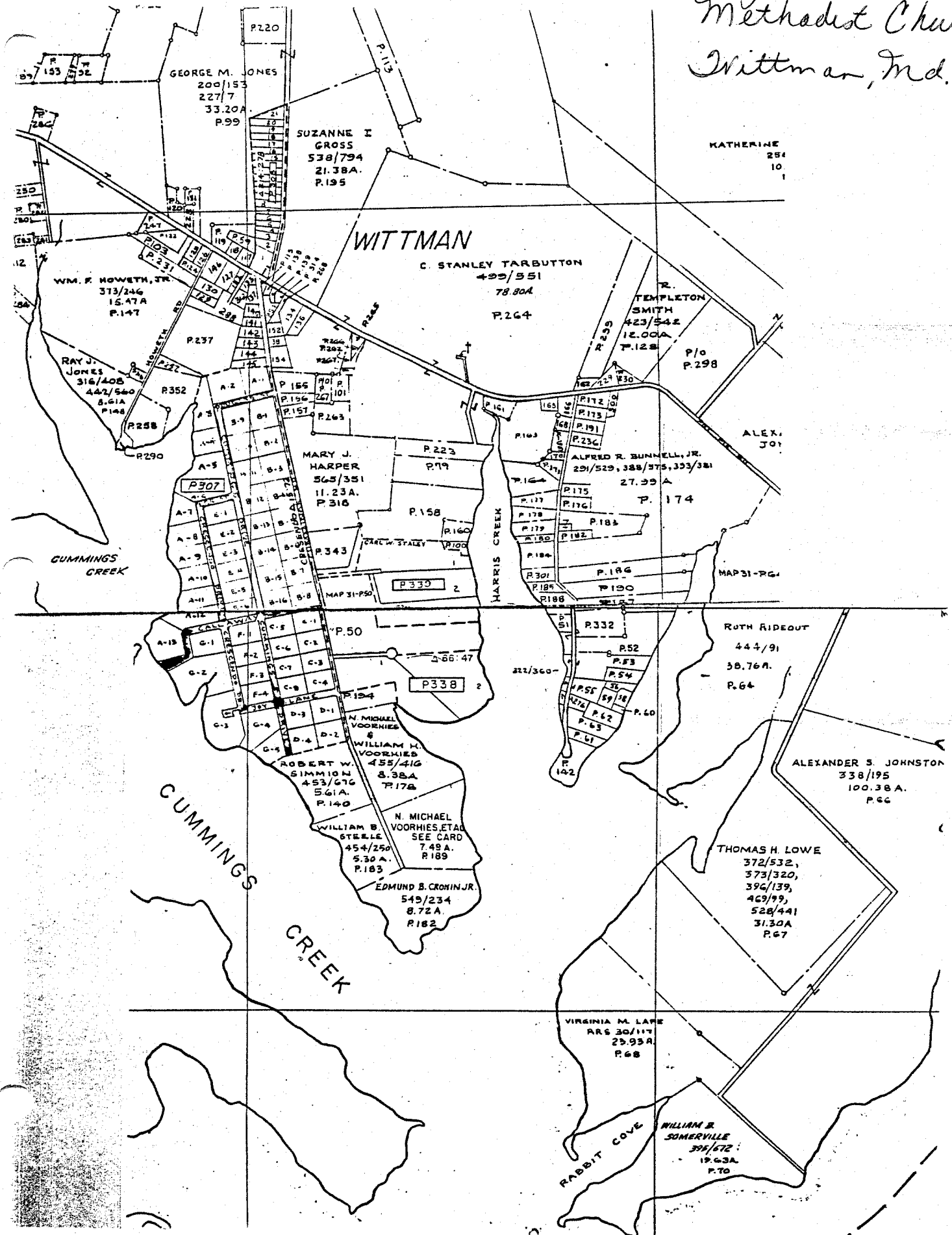
YEAR: 1804 VOL: 30 PAGE: 505

FROM : John Kersey & Mary Lambdin Kersey PRICE: 7s 6d sp

TO : Daniel Lambdin, John McDaniel, Joseph Hopkins, Robert Collison, \*

NOTES: \*Robert Lambdin, James McDaniel, Robert Lambdin, Jr. and James Haddaway. Begins "at the end of 2P on a line S 55 E from a stone showed to be the end of the 2nd line from the Bay of the division line between John Kersey and James Haddaway". Run with the 3rd line of the division S 55 E 6P then N 8.15 E 6P, then N 81.45 W 5 1/3P to the main road; with the main road to the beginning. Contains 24 Square perches. "For the use of the Methodist Episcopal Church of the United States of America". This deed was made on the same date as 30/534.

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 St. John's United  
 Methodist Church  
 Wittman, Md.





~~T-465~~ T-482

St. John's United Methodist  
Church  
Wittman, Md.





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St. John's United Methodist  
Church  
Wittman, Md.



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St. John's United Methodist  
Church

Wittman, M. L.

Talbot - 482  
St. John's U.M. Church  
Rt. 33  
Wittman, MD 21676

1876

St. John's U.M. Church stands 20' from the east side of Rt. 33 at Wittman. It is a handsome structure. Originally clapboard it is now covered with aluminium siding (white). The original bell for this church is now located on the lawn. St. John's U.M. Church was once the property of a predominately white congregation. The church became a primarily black congregation in 1886. The church is attended by black watermen and farmers. The area is well known for its seafood industry and a number of local blacks are employed in packing houses. The church is well maintained and contains a number of fine oak pews that were built locally.

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

St. John's U.M. Church

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Rt. 33

CITY, TOWN

Wittman

— VICINITY OF Tilghman

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

First

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY Talbot

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

## CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT  
☒ BUILDING(S)  
☐ STRUCTURE  
☐ SITE  
☐ OBJECT

## OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC  
☒ PRIVATE  
☐ BOTH

## PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS  
☐ BEING CONSIDERED

## STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED  
☐ UNOCCUPIED  
☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

## ACCESSIBLE

☒ YES: RESTRICTED  
☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED  
☐ NO

## PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE ☐ MUSEUM  
☐ COMMERCIAL ☐ PARK  
☒ EDUCATIONAL ☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE  
☐ ENTERTAINMENT ☒ RELIGIOUS  
☐ GOVERNMENT ☐ SCIENTIFIC  
☐ INDUSTRIAL ☐ TRANSPORTATION  
☐ MILITARY ☐ OTHER

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME Trustees, St. John's U.M. Church  
C/O Rev. Frank W. Robinson

Telephone #: 745-9325

STREET &amp; NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Wittman

— VICINITY OF Tilghman

STATE, zip code

MD, 21676

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, Talbot County Court Houst  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC

Liber #: JCN 4

Folio #: 60

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Court Street

CITY, TOWN

Easton

STATE

Maryland

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

N/A

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**7 DESCRIPTION****CONDITION**

☒ EXCELLENT  
☐ GOOD  
☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED  
☐ RUINS  
☐ UNEXPOSED

**CHECK ONE**

☒ UNALTERED  
☐ ALTERED

**CHECK ONE**

☒ ORIGINAL SITE  
☐ MOVED DATE 1876

**DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE**

St. John's U.M. Church stands 20' from the east side of Rt. 33 at Wittman. It is a handsome structure. Originally clapboard it is now covered with aluminium siding (white). The entrance is on the south side. The double oak doors are located at the southeast corner of the building. The entrance foyer is 6½' square and is part of a short spire that now houses an enclosed belfry. The original bell for this church is now located on the lawn. The church now has electronic chimes. The church has 4-over-4 oblong redglass windows (8'). Two on each side and 2 on the west gable. The interior has circular pews (oak).

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**8 SIGNIFICANCE**

T-482

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

St. John's U.M. Church is an example of another white Methodist church that was given to blacks. This church became an all black congregation in 1886. The church is attended by black watermen, farmers and packing house employees. The area is well known for its seafood industry. The church is well maintained and contains a number of fine oak pews that were built locally. The congregation has a better income than some Eastern Shore black congregations. This is insured by the activity of the Tilghman Island packing plant. Wittman is a predominately black community.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY



**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE James W. Clark, Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION Maryland Commission on Afro-American  
History & Culture

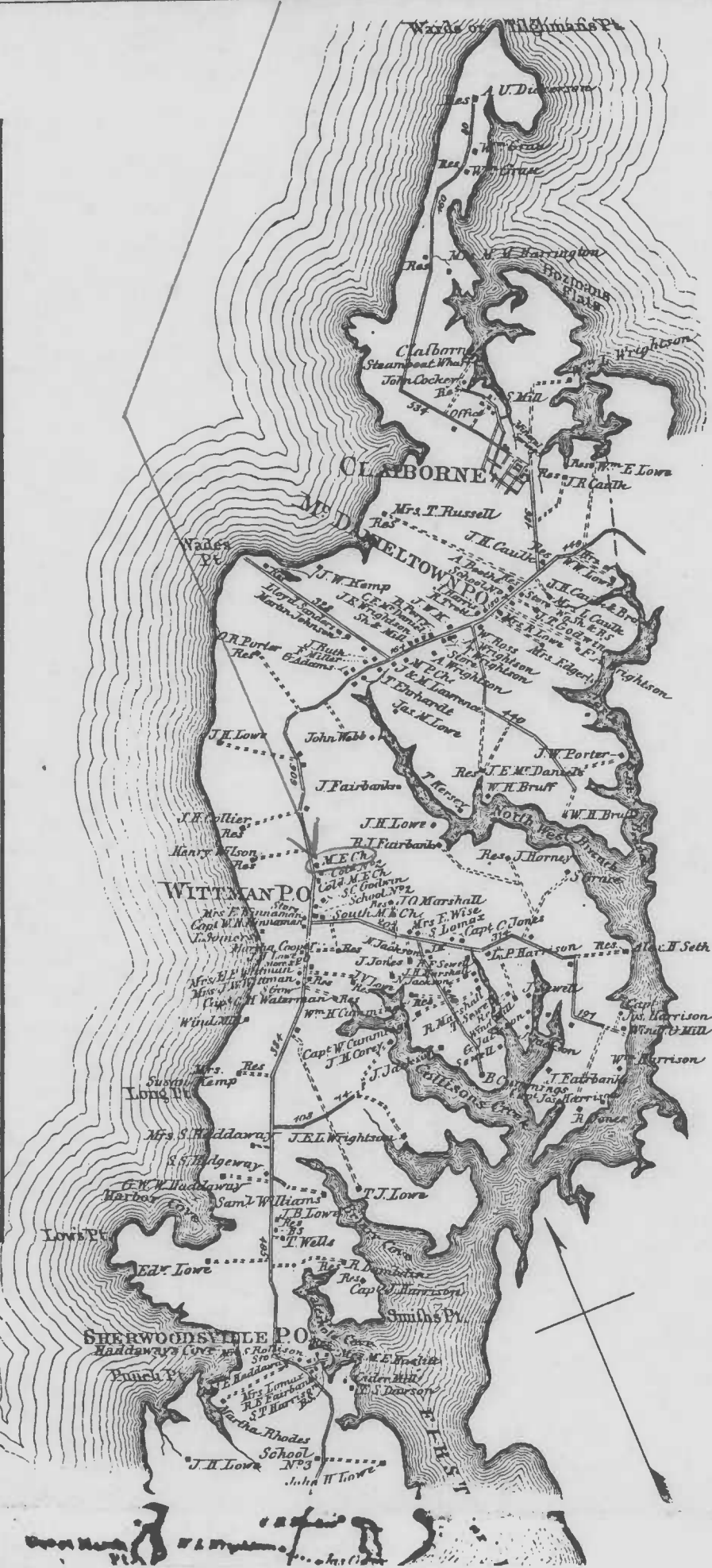
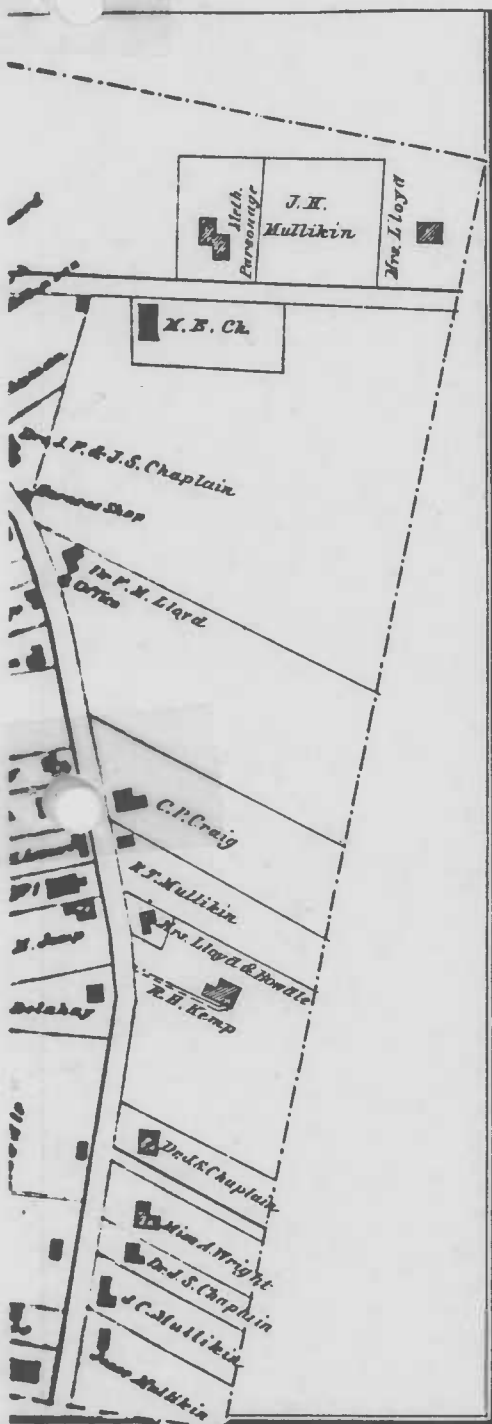
DATE

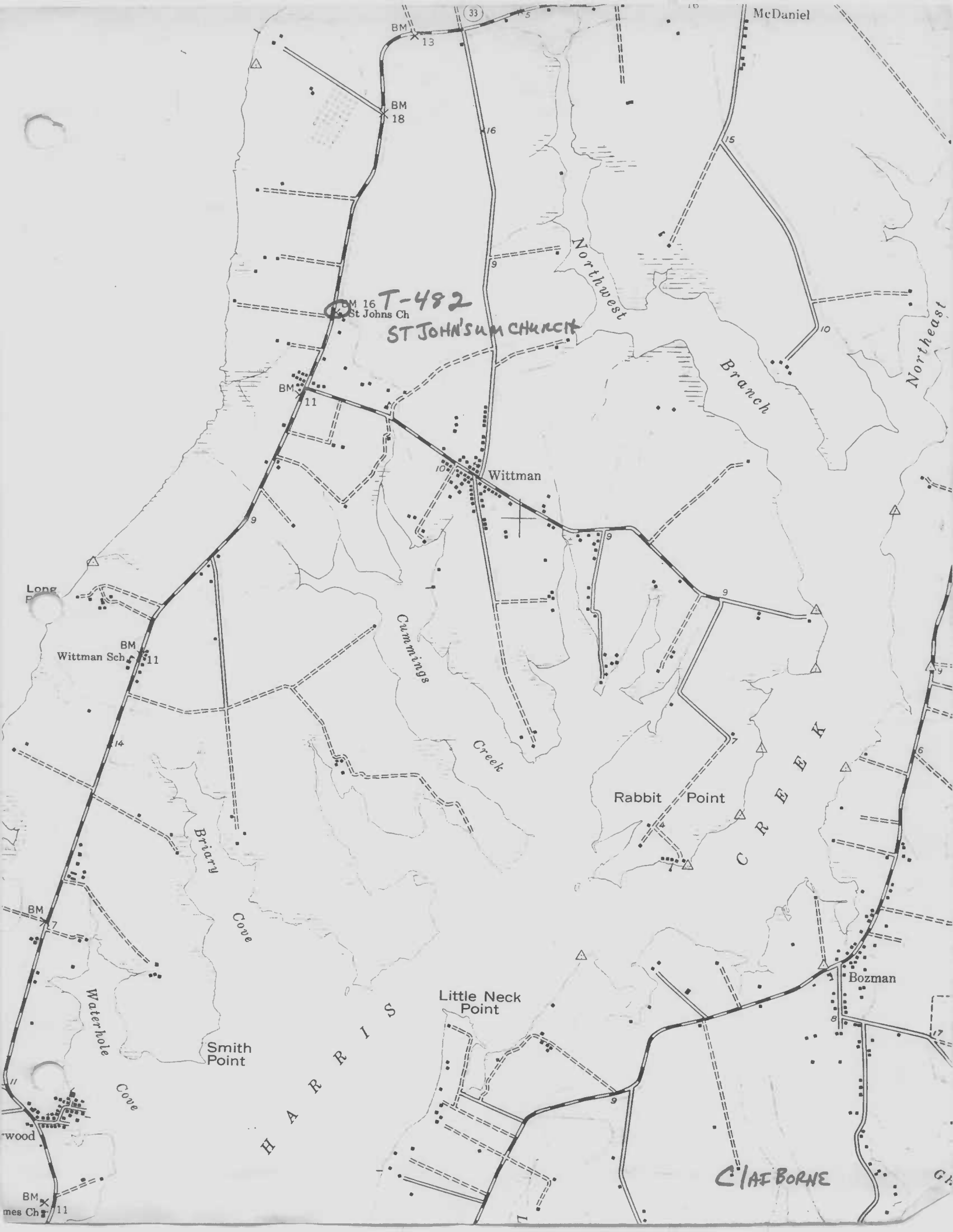
STREET & NUMBER  
20 Dean StreetTELEPHONE  
269-2893CITY OR TOWN  
AnnapolisSTATE  
Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438







482  
44%

11 x 1.65

St. John's United Methodist Church    T-482  
Wittman, Talbot County, Maryland  
Michael Hosford

Maryland Historical Trust, Annapolis, MD  
South elevation  
3/79